

Message Text

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ACTION PA-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-15 ICAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

EUR-12 SP-02 PM-05 DODE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 NEA-10

AF-10 /088 W

-----000843 131759Z /46

O 131722Z JUL 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2013

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 10766

FOR PA AND PA/PRESS, DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR
DR. BREZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT - PRESS REMARKS

REF: STATE 167242-C

1. FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS MADE AT PRESS BRIEFING
FOLLOWING MORNING SESSION VANCE/GROMYKO TALKS, GENEVA,
THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1978, AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL:

GOOD AFTERNOON. I WILL MAKE MY FIFTH ASSAY AT THE
AMOUNT OF TIME THAT THEY MET, AND SOMEBODY CAN CORRECT
ME AS I GO ALONG. IT WAS ROUGHLY 10:30 TO 1:40. A
THREE-HOUR SESSION. THE CONVERSATION WAS ENTIRELY ON
SALT AND THE COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN LATERALLY IN THE
COURSE OF THE CONVERSATION. A GOOD PART OF THAT WAS
EITHER THE SECRETARY AND MR. GROMYKO TOGETHER; LATERALLY
THE SECRETARY AND MR. WARNKE AS WELL, AND AS I SAID THE
LATTER PART OF THE CONVERSATION WAS ON THE COMPREHENSIVE
TEST BAN.

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THEY WILL MEET AGAIN AT 3:30 AT THE SOVIET MISSION. I
STRONGLY ADVISE EVERYONE TO HANG AROUND THERE. I BELIEVE
THAT WHETHER THEY DO IT TOGETHER OR NOT, THE SECRETARY
WILL TAKE QUESTIONS AND HAVE A FEW THINGS TO SAY AT THAT
TIME.

QUESTION: AT THE BEGINNING OR THE END?

ANSWER: AT THE END.

QUESTION: THEN WHY CAN'T HE COME BACK HERE AND SPEAK TO US?

ANSWER: WELL, THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT THEY WILL DO IT TOGETHER. AND I REALLY DO RECOMMEND THAT. THIS IS GOING TO BE A FAIRLY STERILE BRIEFING AND IF YOU WANT ANY SUBSTANCE OUT OF THIS THING YOU ARE GOING TO GET IT THERE. I HAVE NO CHARACTERIZATION BEYOND WHAT I OFFERED YOU YESTERDAY.

QUESTION: DO YOU ESTIMATE A LONG SESSION THIS AFTERNOON?

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT, AND THE SECRETARY DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT IN TERMS OF LENGTH. WE STILL INTEND TO LEAVE HERE--WHEELS UP--AROUND 7:15 OR SO.

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT MRS. SHCHARANSKY?

ANSWER: MRS. SHCHARANSKY HAS BEEN NOTIFIED THAT THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AS SOON AS THE OTHER MEETING IS OVER.

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QUESTION: WHERE?

ANSWER: HERE.

QUESTION: WELL, IF HE IS COMING HERE, WHY CAN'T HE SPEAK TO US HERE.

ANSWER: WELL, AGAIN, THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT THE TWO OF THEM (VANCE/GROMYKO) WILL BRIEF TOGETHER AT THE END OF THEIR AFTERNOON SESSION. THERE WILL NOT BE A COMMUNIQUE.

QUESTION: WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE THE BRIEFING INSIDE WHERE WE CAN GET AWAY FROM NOISE?

ANSWER: WELL, I WILL TALK TO MR. HAFREY WHO IS WONDERFUL IN SITUATIONS LIKE THAT, AND SEE WHAT HE CAN DO ABOUT SETTING UP SOMETHING.

QUESTION: IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE SECRETARY MIGHT HAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE LATER?

ANSWER: NO, BUT I WOULDN'T RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT AFTER HE MEETS MRS. SHCHARANSKY HE MIGHT COME OUT AND SAY SOMETHING. BUT IT WON'T BE WHAT YOU WOULD THINK OF AS A BIG PRESS CONFERENCE.

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING ITSELF?

ANSWER: I AM SURE YOU WILL HAVE A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY.

QUESTION: WILL THE SECRETARY BE LEAVING TONIGHT?

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FOR PA AND PA/PRESS, DEPT PASS NSC FOR
DR BREZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR POWELL

ANSWER: YES, IT IS STILL INTENDED TO TRY TO GET OUT OF HERE BY 7:15.

QUESTION: SALT IS STILL ON THE AGENDA FOR THE AFTERNOON SESSION?

ANSWER: WE EXPECT THIS AFTERNOON THAT WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA IS THE MIDDLE EAST AND ANY OTHER MATTER THE PARTIES WANT TO BRING UP. THE MIDDLE EAST IS THE ONLY THING I CAN TELL YOU I KNOW IS ON THE AGENDA.

QUESTION: NO MORE SALT?

ANSWER: THAT IS CORRECT.

QUESTION: WHY CAN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING TO US?

ANSWER: WELL, THE MAIN REASON IS THAT WHEN YOU HAVE A CHANCE FOR THE SECRETARY TO SAY SOMETHING YOU ARE GOING TO GET MORE THAN YOU CAN GET FROM A SPOKESMAN-- MAYBE*

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QUESTION: HOW MUCH THIS MORNING WAS DEVOTED TO SALT AND HOW MUCH TO THE COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN?

ANSWER: THE BULK WAS ON SALT.

QUESTION: THERE IS SOME CONFUSION AS TO HOW MUCH TIME THEY WERE TOGETHER. YOU MENTIONED LATERALLY, BUT CAN YOU BREAK IT DOWN TO LATERALLY (?)?

ANSWER: NO, BUT I'LL SEE IF I CAN.

QUESTION: DO I ALSO UNDERSTAND FROM THAT THAT THE OTHER DELEGATION (UNINTELLIGIBLE)?

ANSWER: YES, THEY IN FACT TALKED TO EACH OTHER ABOUT GENERAL SUBJECTS, THEY WEREN'T DOING HARD BUSINESS.

QUESTION: SO THEY NEVER SAT DOWN WITH GROMYKO AT ALL?

ANSWER: EXCEPT THAT JUST WHEN THEY ALL WERE THERE TOGETHER AT THE BEGINNING, I MEAN AT THE END, BUT THEY WERE NOT MEETING AS A GROUP.

QUESTION: HODDING, ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH ANDY YOUNG HERE? ARE YOU GOING TO TRY TO BRING HIM DOWN HERE? (ANOTHER UNINTELLIGIBLE SENTENCE.)

ANSWER: THE AMBASSADOR IS A CABINET-RANK OFFICER AND I WORK FOR ANOTHER ONE, AND I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH BRINGING HIM DOWN.

QUESTION: IS IT YOUR UNDERSTANDING THAT HE IS NOT GOING TO MEET WITH MRS. SHCHARANSKY AT THE SAME TIME THE SECRETARY IS?

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ANSWER: I JUST DON'T KNOW.

QUESTION: IS THE SECRETARY HAVING LUNCH WITH MR. YOUNG?

ANSWER: YES

QUESTION: IN THE HOTEL?

ANSWER: YES, IN HIS SUITE.

THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT THE NAMIBIAN MATTERS AND CLEARLY,
OTHER ISSUES WHICH ARE ON YOUR MIND WILL COME UP AS WELL.
THEY HAVE ALREADY TALKED BY PHONE.

QUESTION: WHAT MATTER?

ANSWER: NAMIBIA. YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THE STORIES OUT
OF LUANDA ABOUT THE APPARENT ACCEPTANCE BY SWAPO OF THE
CONTACT GROUP PLAN AND THEY WILL OBVIOUSLY BE DISCUSSING
NEXT STEPS ON THAT.

QUESTION: HAS THAT AFFECTED THE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE AT
ALL?

ANSWER: NO, I DON'T THINK SO BECAUSE THE SUMMIT IN AND
OF ITSELF WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY, EVEN IN SOME
MEETINGS ALREADY SET FOR THOSE FOLKS TO TALK SPECIFICALLY
ABOUT THAT, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

QUESTION: YOU SAY APPARENT ACCEPTANCE.

ANSWER: WELL, THE ONLY REASON I SAY APPARENT IS THAT WHAT
I HAVE NOT SEEN AND CAN'T OFFER YOU ARE ANY WIGGLES AND

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WRINKLES THAT MAY BE BEYOND THE PLAN. THE PLAN, AS I
UNDERSTAND IT, HAS BEEN ACCEPTED. WHAT THERE MAY BE IN
ADDITION I AM IN NO POSITION TO OFFER RIGHT NOW.
END BRIEFING.VANDEN HEUVAL

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